## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /085 W

----- 043669

R 280730Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7000

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

CONFIDENTIAL SANA 3620

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: OVIP, YE

SUBJECT: FUTURE TRAVEL PLANS OF PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI

- 1. ON DEC 25 FONMIN ABDULLAH AL-ASNAJ INFORMED ME THAT PRESIDENT HAMDI WILL BE LEAVING FOR KHARTOUM ON DEC 31 ON A THREE-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO SUDAN TO RETURN A SIMILAR VISIT TO YEMEN BY PRESIDENT NUMAYRI LAST SEPTEMBER. ASNAJ DESCRIBED YEMEN RELATIONS WITH SUDAN AS EXCELLENT AND ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SUDANESE EFFORTS WITH THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF YEMEN DURING THE RECENT YEMENI/SAUDI MALENTENDU.
- 2. IN ADDITION, ASNAJ TOLD ME THAT HE HAS SUGGESTED TO THE EGYPTIANS THAT IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL IF PRESIDENT HAMDI MIGHT MEET WITH PRESIDENT SADAT IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ISSUES, INCLUDING THE SITUATION IN PDRY WHERE BOTH STATES HAVE A COMMON INTEREST. ASNAJ SAID THE EGYPTIANS HAVE EXPRESSED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE BUT AS YET NO DATE CONFIDENTIAL

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HAS BEEN SET. ASNAJ INDICATED THAT YAR IS LEAVING THE DATE

UP TO THE EGYPTIANS SO THAT A TIME CONVENIENT TO SADAT WILL BE CHOSEN IN THE HOPE THAT THE MEETINGS CAN BE DEVOTED TO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS AND NOT BECOME AN OCCASION FOR A TOURISTIC VISIT.

- 3. ASNAJ CONTINUED THAT HE IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE STATE OF EGYPTIAN/YEMENI RELATIONS DETECTING A COOLNESS WHICH HE SUSPECTS MAY BE THE RESULT OF "INCOMPLETE" REPORTING BY THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR HERE WHO HE SAID HAD BEEN "EXILED" TO SANA BECAUSE OF HIS CONNECTION WITH THE LATE PRESIDENT NASSER AND FOR THAT REASON MAY NOT REALLY FEEL OBLIGED TO DO HIS DUTY. ASNAJ STATED IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YEMEN TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH EGYPT, PARTICULARLY AT A TIME WHEN OTHER STATES IN THE AREA LIKE IRAQ MAY TURN AGAINST YAR IN WAKE OF SAUDI/YEMENI RAPPROCHEMENT.
- 4. ASNAJ ALSO INFORMED ME THAT HE HAS BEEN INVITED BY FONMIN FAHMI TO VISIT EGYPT SOME TIME IN MARCH AND WILL DO SO AT THAT TIME.
- 5. COMMENT: ASNAJ HAS LONG BEEN URGING HAMDI TO MAKE PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH LEADERS OF NEIGHBORING ARAB STATES AS A WAY BOTH TO ENHANCE HIS POLITICAL POSITION AS WELL AS TO PUT YEMEN ON THE ARAB MAP. THESE VISITS SHOULD BE SEEN IN THAT CONTEXT. SCOTES

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Subject: FUTURE TRAVEL PLANS OF PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, YE, EG, (HAMDI, IBRAHIM MUHAMMAD AL)

To: STATE

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